

HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE

Invasive Disease

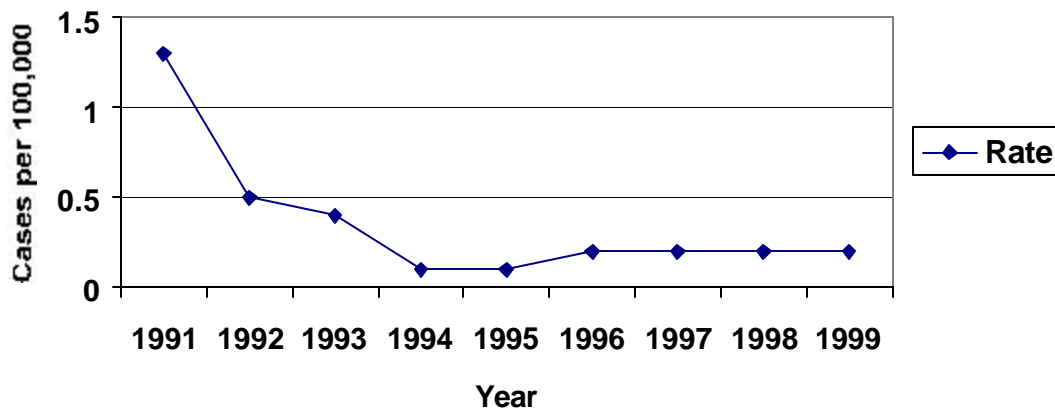
The organism *Haemophilus influenzae* type b causes meningitis, epiglottitis, septic arthritis, and pneumonia, as well as localized infections such as conjunctivitis, sinusitis, otitis media and bronchitis in infants and young children. In adults, the organism often presents as pneumonia. Droplets from the nose and throat spread the organism during the infectious period. A vaccine which protects against invasive disease caused by *H. influenzae* type b (Hib) is recommended for all infants beginning at two months of age.

Laboratory Criteria for Diagnosis:

- Isolation of *Haemophilus influenzae* from a normally sterile site (blood, CSF, or less commonly, joint, pleural, or pericardial fluid).

	1998	1999
Number of Cases	7	9
Rate per 100,000	0.2	0.2
Rate by Gender		
Female	0.2	0.4
Male	0.2	0.1

***H. influenzae* Incidence, Kentucky 1991-1999**



Three cases in each year occurred in children 1 year or less in age, for a rate of 3.0 per 100,000 in the 0-1 age group. In the 1996 and 1997 reporting years there was only 1 case reported in children under five years of age.

The districts reporting cases in **1998 and 1999** were: Pennyrite, Green River, Barren River, North Central, Northern Kentucky, Lake Cumberland and Bluegrass.